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July 1, 2003

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OF COUNSEL  
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Honorable James H. Welsh  
Commissioner of Conservation  
State of Louisiana  
Post Office Box 94275  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804-9275

RE: HEARING APPLICATION  
Lower Cotton Valley Zone  
Minden Field  
Webster Parish, Louisiana  
Our File No. 360135.0015

Dear Sir:

In accordance with the Rules of Procedure of the Commissioner of Conservation, notice is hereby given that O'BRIEN ENERGY COMPANY intends to make application to the Commissioner of Conservation of the State of Louisiana for a public hearing to receive evidence concerning the following matters relating to the Lower Cotton Valley Zone, in the Minden Field, Webster Parish, Louisiana:

1. To redefine the Lower Cotton Valley Zone, in the Minden Field, Webster Parish, Louisiana, INsofar AND ONLY INsofar as to LCV SUD, as being that gas and condensate bearing interval encountered between the depths of 9015 feet and 9849 feet (electrical log measurements) in the O'Brien Energy Company - E.O. Cox No. 1 Well, located in Section 20, Township 19 North, Range 8 West, Webster Parish, Louisiana.
2. Except for the redefinition noted above, to ratify, confirm and continue in full force and effect LCV SUD, as shown on the plat attached hereto, which was created by Office of Conservation Order No. 457-AA, effective November 1, 1968, as a drilling and production unit for the exploration for and production of gas and condensate from the Lower Cotton Valley Zone, in the Minden Field, Webster Parish, Louisiana.
3. Except to the extent contrary herewith, to extend the provisions of the Office of Conservation 457-AA Series of Orders to the abovesaid unit, as ratified and confirmed.
4. To designate the O'Brien Energy Company - E.O. Cox No. 1 Well as the unit well and O'Brien Energy Company as unit operator of LCV SUD.
5. To consider such other matters and issue such orders as may be appropriate and justified

by the evidence presented at the hearing.

The Lower Cotton Valley Zone, in the Minden Field, Webster Parish, Louisiana, was previously defined in Office of Conservation Order No. 457-AA-1, effective January 16, 1985, but shall be redefined as set forth above as to LCV SUD.

Pertinent data pertaining to this application is available for inspection at the Offices of O'Brien Energy Company, 5925 Line Avenue, Shreveport, Louisiana 71106. Any person wishing to inspect such data should call Mr. Alan Brittain at (318) 865-8568, during normal business hours, or write Mr. Brittain at the above address in order to arrange a time and date for such inspection. Copies of such pertinent data can be obtained at the expense of the requesting party.

A list of the names and addresses of all Interested Owners, Represented Parties and Interested Parties (as defined in the Rules of Procedure) is attached and a copy of this application, with the attached plat, is being sent to each of such persons. A reasonable effort has been made to determine that the enclosed list includes all of the persons required by the Rules of Procedure. The Applicant will also arrange for mailing, posting and publication of the legal notice of this hearing in accordance with the Rules of Procedure.

By Pre-Application Notice dated June 20, 2003, applicant advised the Commissioner of Conservation, the District Manager and all Interested Owners, Represented Parties and Interested Parties of applicant's intention to apply for the hearing which is the subject of this application. Applicant received no request for a conference, and accordingly, no conference will be held.

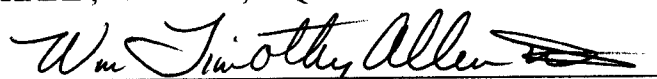
A check in the amount of \$755.00 payable to the Commissioner of Conservation is enclosed herewith as the statutory fee for holding the requested hearing.

This application is being filed in duplicate, and a copy hereof is being sent to Mr. James C. Broussard, Shreveport District Manager of the Office of Conservation and to each Interested Owner, Represented Party and Interested Party whose name is shown on the attached list.

Very truly yours,

BLANCHARD, WALKER, O'QUIN & ROBERTS

By:



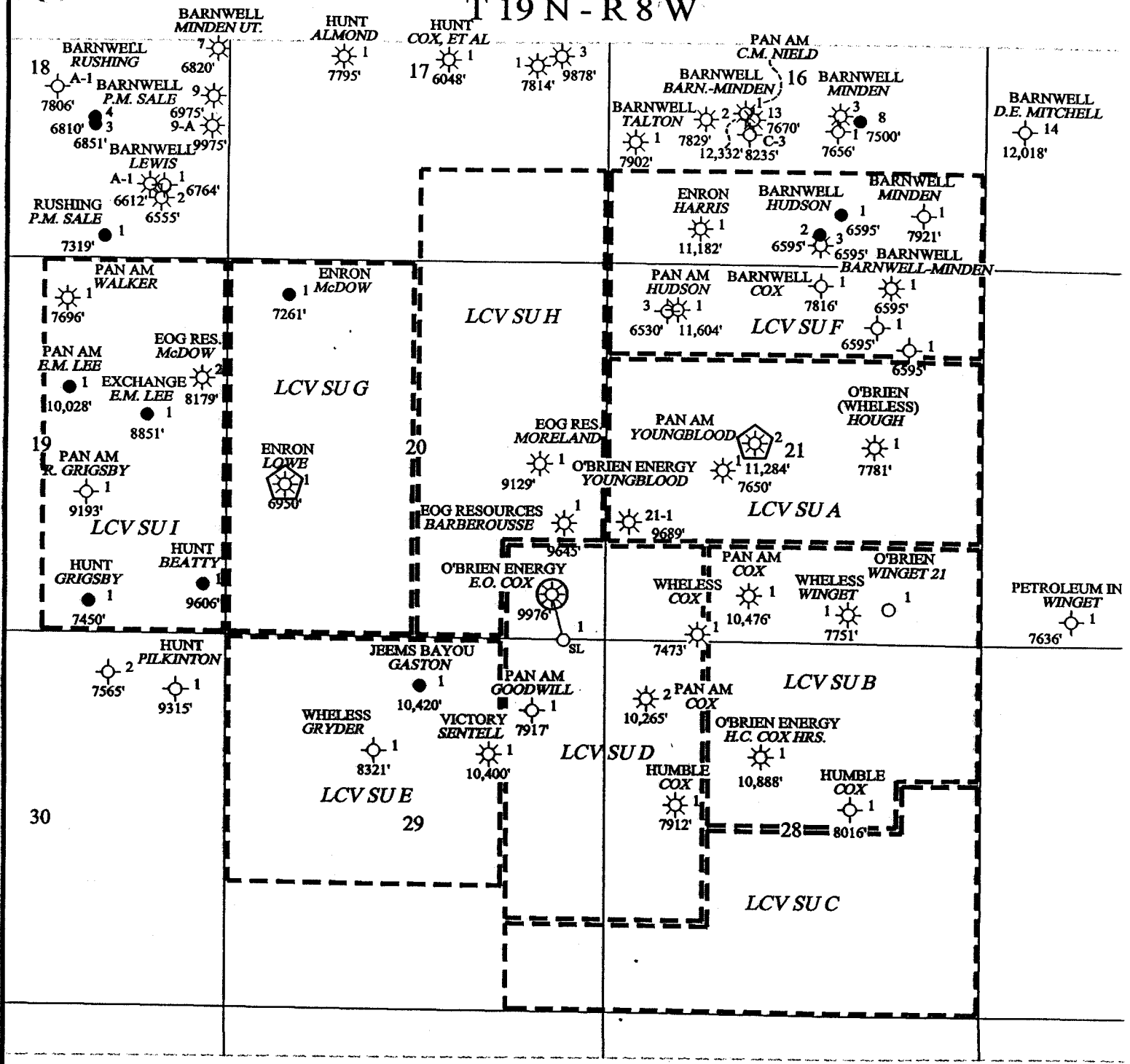
Wm. Timothy Allen III

Attorneys for O'Brien Energy Company

WTAlII:bp  
Enclosures

- cc: Mr. James C. Broussard, District Manager  
Office of Conservation, Shreveport, La. (w/enclosures)
- cc: Interested Owners, Represented Parties  
and Interested Parties (w/copy of plat only)

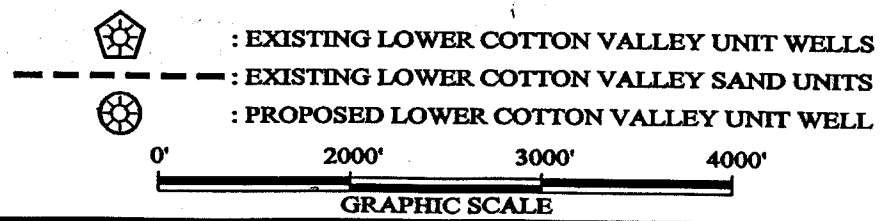
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**O'BRIEN ENERGY COMPANY**  
SHREVEPORT, LOUISIANA

**MINDEN FIELD**  
WEBSTER PARISH, LOUISIANA

**PROPOSED UNIT WELL FOR LOWER COTTON VALLEY SAND UNIT D**



U. S. BUREAU OF MINERAL INVESTIGATION